3

DYNAMITE®

HOWARD CHAYKIN

THE SHADOW®

MIDNIGHT IN MOSCOW

MIDNIGHT IN MOSCOW

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"GETTING THERE IS HALF THE FUN!"

THAT SLOGAN SUSTAINED THE CUNARD LINE FOR DECADES...

...DRAWING IN CUSTOMERS OF EVERY CLASS ON BOARD THOSE ENORMOUS LINERS...

...THE EQUIVALENT OF A SMALL CITY CROSSING FROM NEW YORK TO LIVERPOOL AND BACK EVERY SEVEN DAYS.

QUEEN MARY

YOU MIGHT AT LEAST *PRETEND* TO HAVE A GOOD TIME...

MARGO...

...PERHAPS BY PUTTING TO USE ALL THOSE SPECIAL SKILLS OF SUBTERFUGE, DECEPTION AND *DISGUISE* THAT MADE THE SHADOW *QUELLE FORMIDABLE*.

...YOU'RE BECOMING *TIRESOME*.

IS *THAT* SO?

MAYBE IF YOU WEREN'T SO OBVIOUSLY BORED BY EVERY SINGLE THING I DO TO KEEP YOU *ENTERTAINED*, YOU WOULDN'T BE QUITE SO TIRED.

PERHAPS YOU'RE RIGHT...

...MAYBE I HAVE BEEN PLAYING THE ROLE OF *LAMONT CRANSTON*, WEALTHY MAN ABOUT TOWN, FOR SO LONG...

THE SHADOW
Writer & Artist
HOWARD CHAYKIN
Colorist
JESUS ABURTOV
Letterer
KEN BRUZENAK
MIDNIGHT IN MOSCOW PART 3
...THAT IT'S BECOME SECOND NATURE FOR ME TO APPEAR DIFFIDENT AND DETACHED...
...WHEN ACTUALLY, NOTHING COULD BE FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH.
REALLY...?
ABSOLUTELY. THE SHIP IS WONDERFUL, THE VOYAGE IS DELIGHTFUL...
...I'M HAVING THE TIME OF MY LIFE.
IS THAT RIGHT?
ABSOLUTELY.
WELL, I MUST SAY, IF YOU'D PULLED THIS NONSENSE AS THE SHADOW...
...YOU'D'VE BEEN A PUDDLE OF FLESH, BLOOD AND BONE FROM YOUR FIRST FORAY INTO THE DARK.

AM I *THAT* TRANSPARENT?

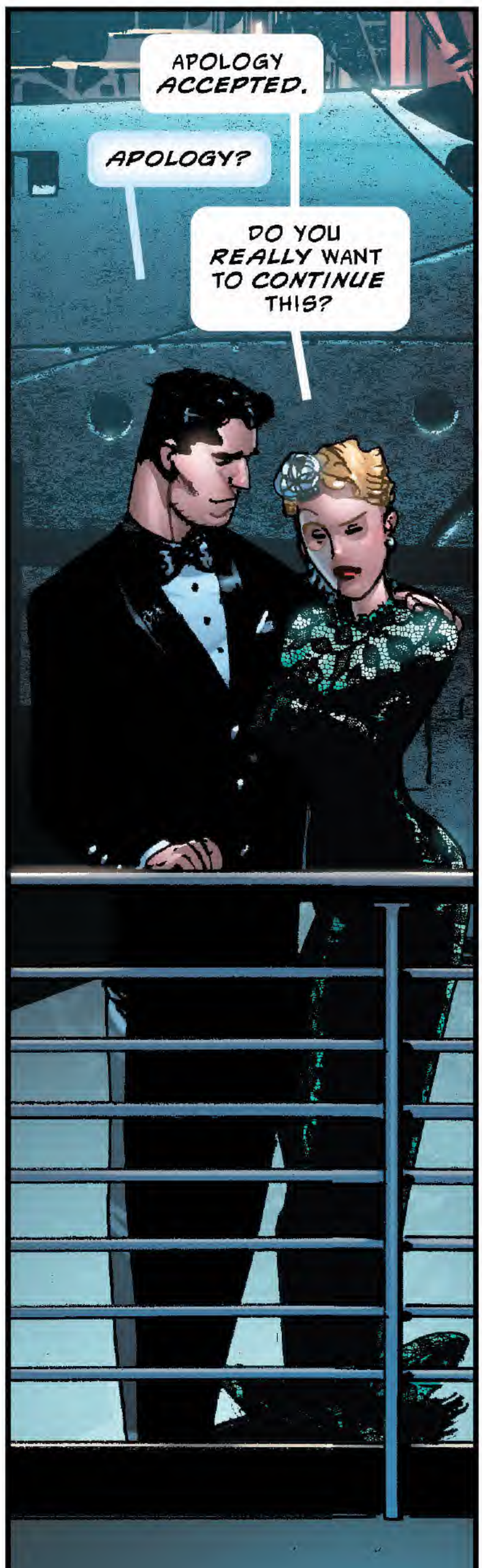
AS I'VE *FREQUENTLY* HEARD YOU SAY, "COMMIT A *CRIME*, AND THE WORLD IS MADE OF *GLASS*."

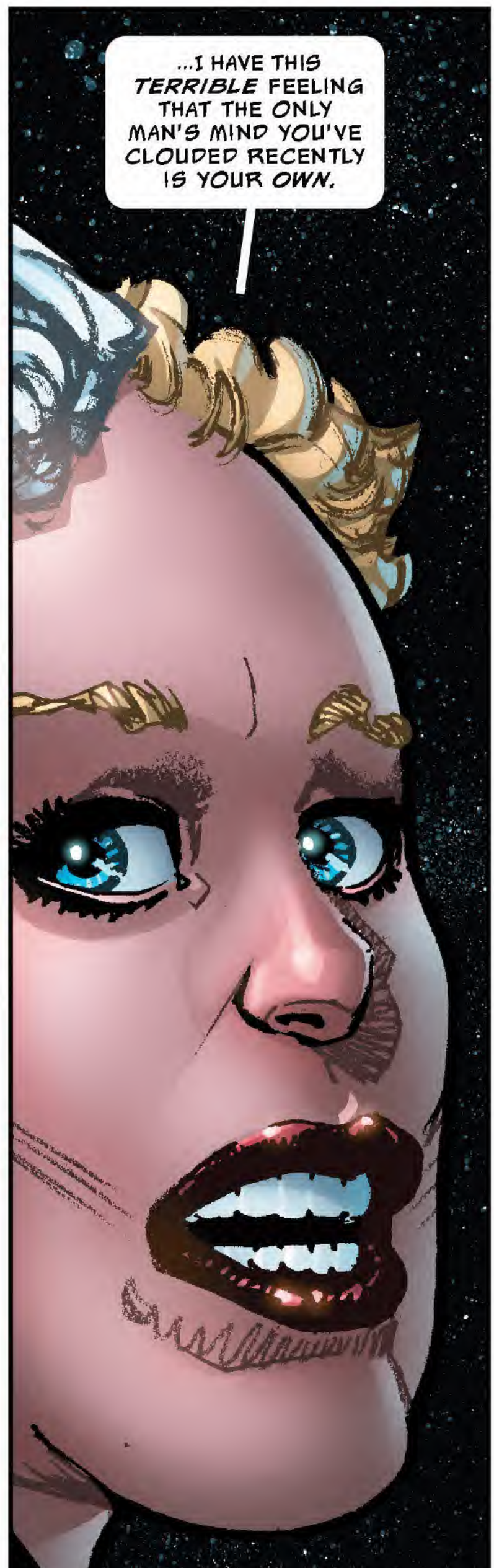
YOUR *DISINTEREST* IN THIS VOYAGE IS AS TRANSPARENT AS A *FELONY*.

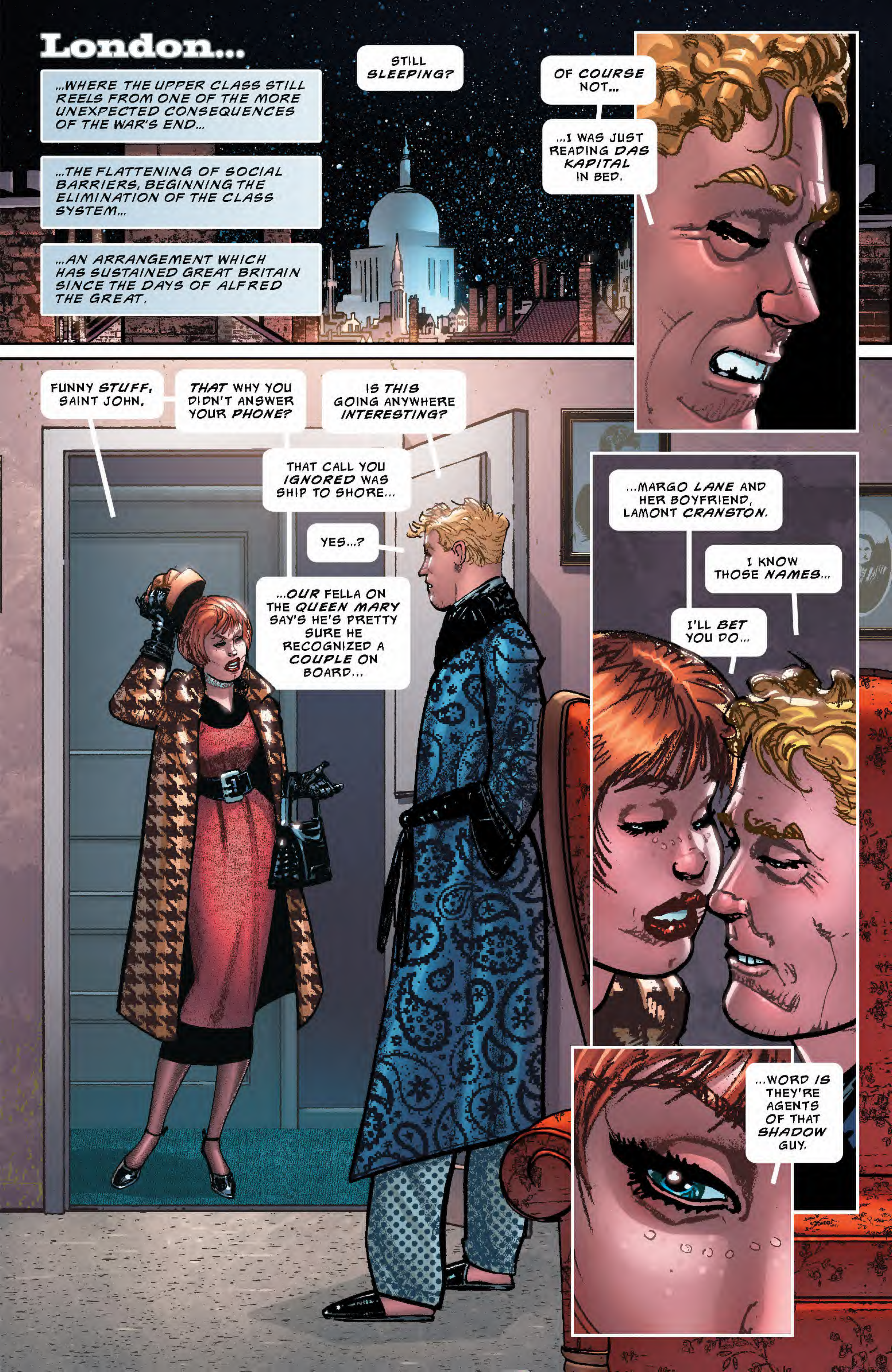
I HAVE HEARD *ENOUGH*.

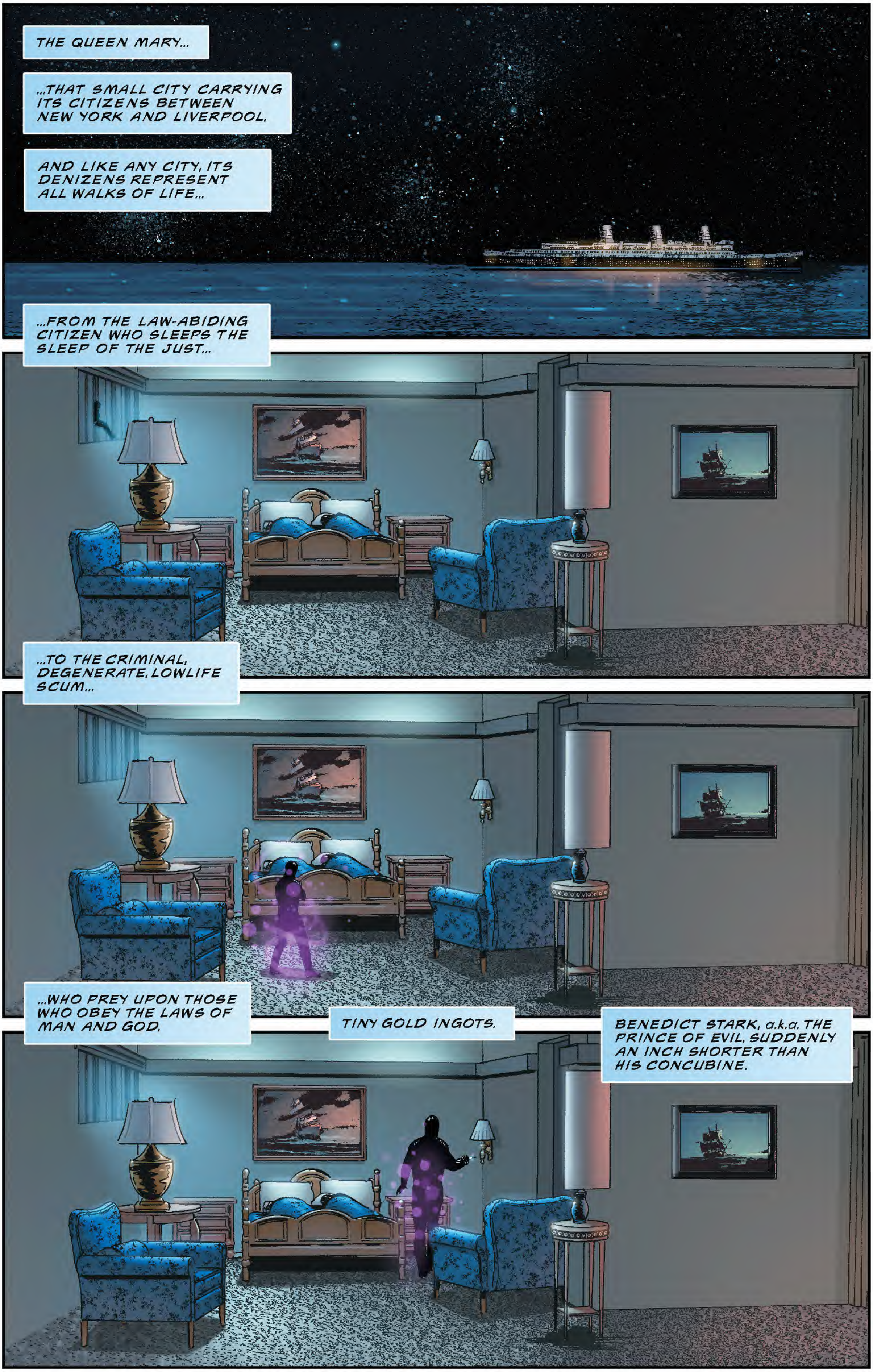
I *PROMISE* TO HAVE A GOOD TIME...

...SCOUT'S *HONOR*.






London...
...WHERE THE UPPER CLASS STILL REELS FROM ONE OF THE MORE UNEXPECTED CONSEQUENCES OF THE WAR'S END...
...THE FLATTENING OF SOCIAL BARRIERS, BEGINNING THE ELIMINATION OF THE CLASS SYSTEM...
...AN ARRANGEMENT WHICH HAS SUSTAINED GREAT BRITAIN SINCE THE DAYS OF ALFRED THE GREAT.
STILL SLEEPING?
OF COURSE NOT...
...I WAS JUST READING DAS KAPITAL IN BED.
FUNNY STUFF, SAINT JOHN.
THAT WHY YOU DIDN'T ANSWER YOUR PHONE?
IS THIS GOING ANYWHERE INTERESTING?
THAT CALL YOU IGNORED WAS SHIP TO SHORE...
YES...?
...OUR FELLA ON THE QUEEN MARY SAY'S HE'S PRETTY SURE HE RECOGNIZED A COUPLE ON BOARD...
...MARGO LANE AND HER BOYFRIEND, LAMONT CRANSTON.
I KNOW THOSE NAMES...
I'LL BET YOU DO...
...WORD IS THEY'RE AGENTS OF THAT SHADOW GUY.


THE QUEEN MARY...
...THAT SMALL CITY CARRYING ITS CITIZENS BETWEEN NEW YORK AND LIVERPOOL.
AND LIKE ANY CITY, ITS DENIZENS REPRESENT ALL WALKS OF LIFE...
...FROM THE LAW-ABIDING CITIZEN WHO SLEEPS THE SLEEP OF THE JUST...
...TO THE CRIMINAL, DEGENERATE, LOWLIFE SCUM...
...WHO PREY UPON THOSE WHO OBEY THE LAWS OF MAN AND GOD.
TINY GOLD INGOTS.
BENEDICT STARK, a.k.a. THE PRINCE OF EVIL, SUDDENLY AN INCH SHORTER THAN HIS CONCUBINE.

IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT IF LAMONT CRANSTON...

...NÉ KENT ALLARD...

...a.k.a. THE SHADOW...

...HAD WITNESSED THE SUDDEN AND BIZARRE GROWTH SPURT OF THIS ASSASSIN...

...CONNECTIONS WOULD HAVE BEEN MADE IMMEDIATELY.

MARGO...

Hrmmm...

...WHA'...?

STAY DOWN, MARGO-!

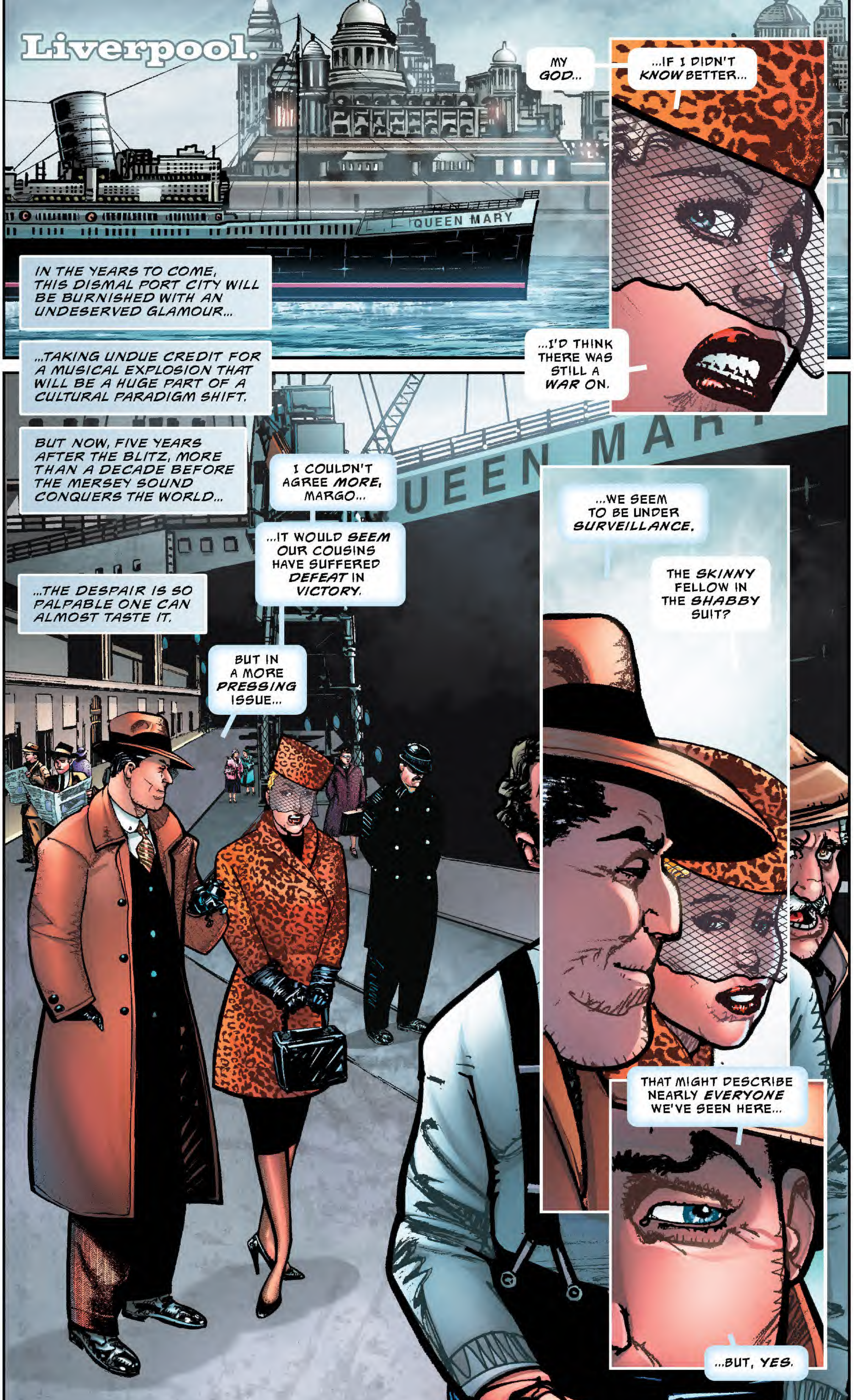
Huh...?

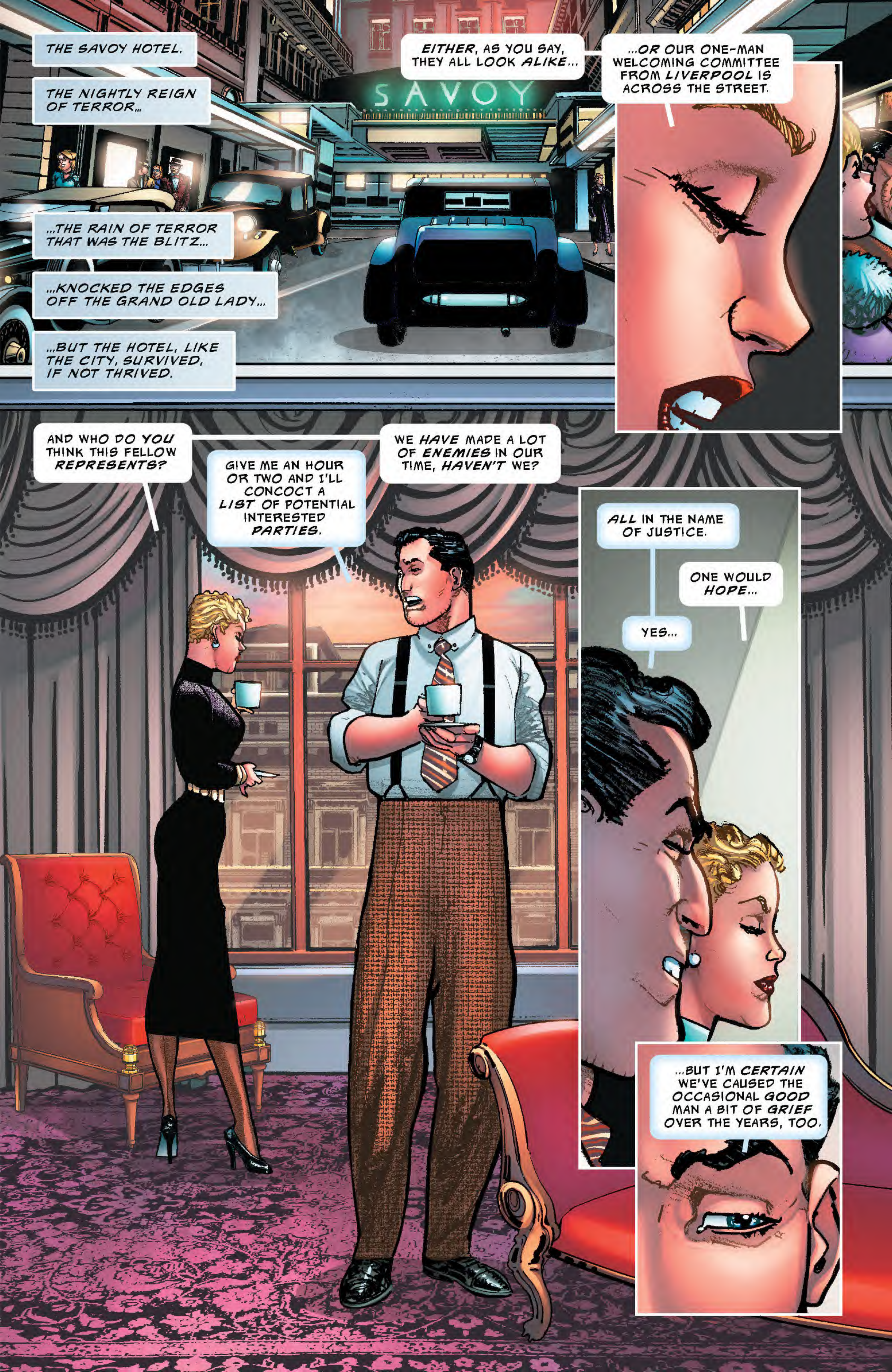
GAAAHH!!

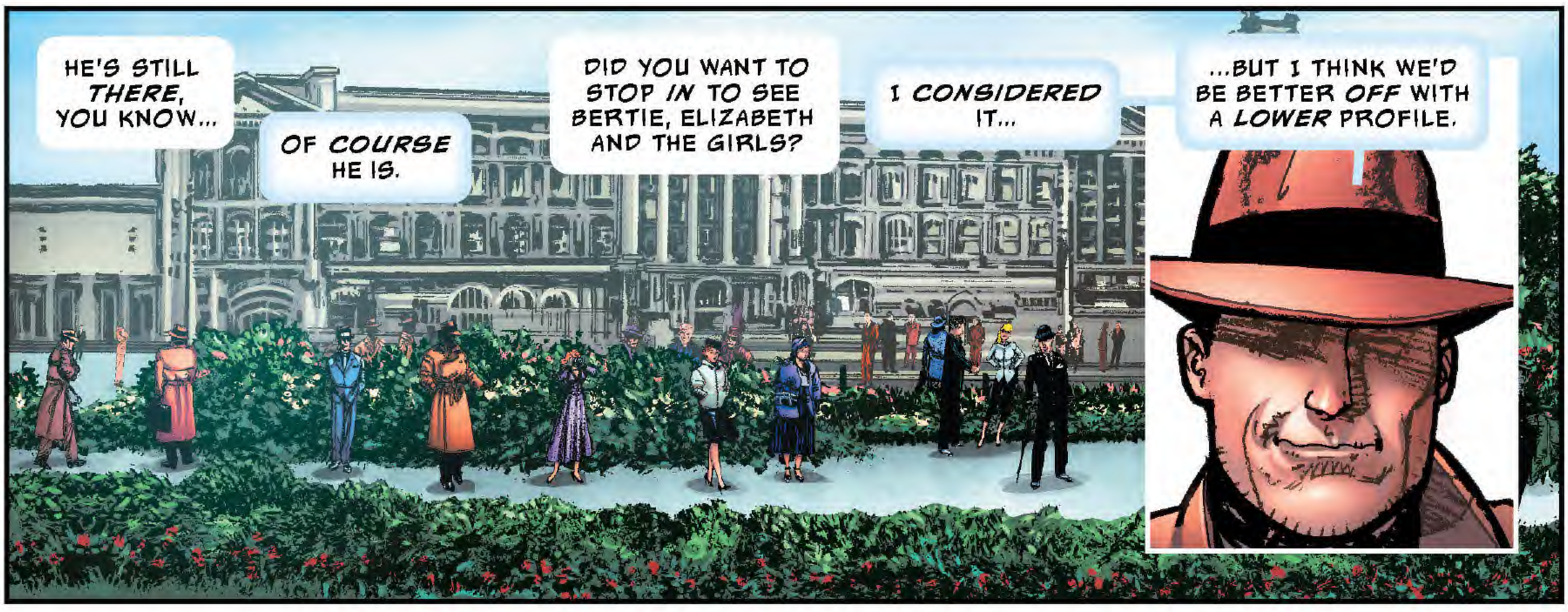
TINY GOLD INGOTS...

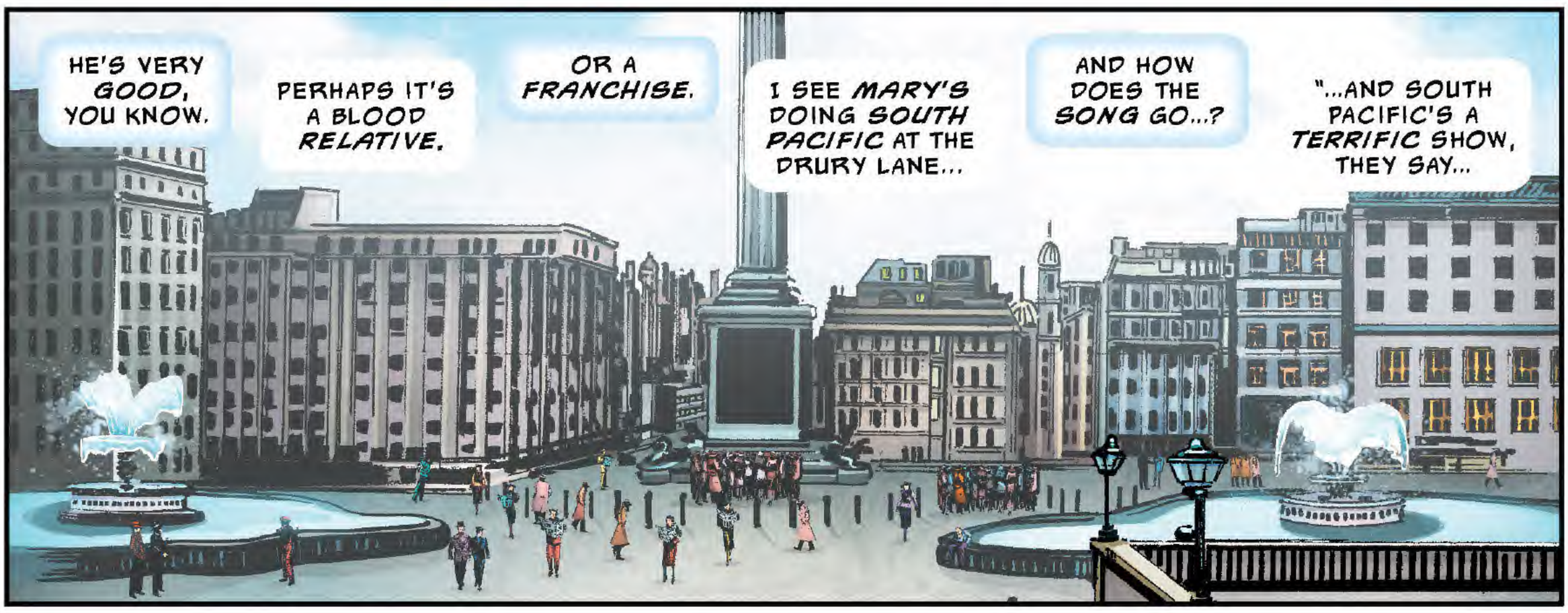
...BENEDICT STARK, a.k.a. THE PRINCE OF EVIL. SUDDENLY AN INCH SHORTER THAN HIS CONCUBINE.

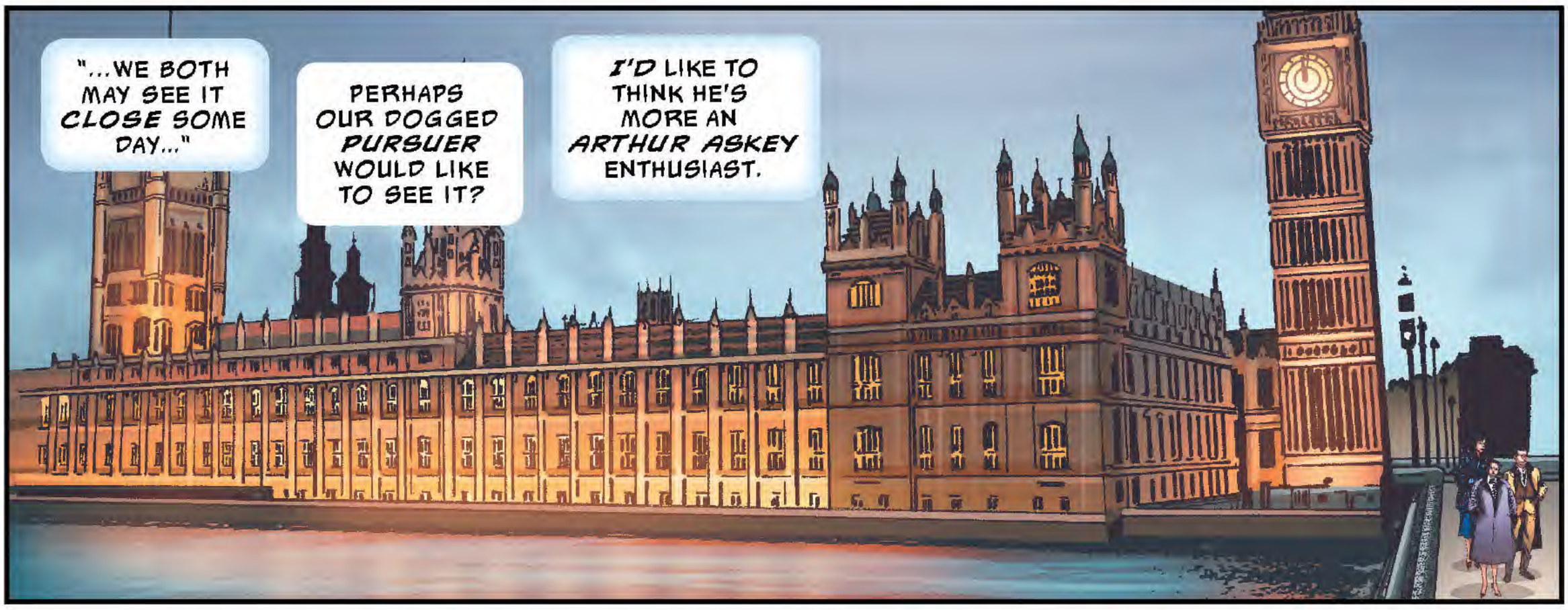
DANG...
...I SHOULDA KNOWN THIS WAS GONNA HAPPEN.
THEY WERE ASLEEP, FOR PITY'S SAKE...
...WHAT CAN BE SO DIFFICULT ABOUT MURDERING A MAN AND A WOMAN IN BED?
TOLDJA WE SHOULD'VE TAKEN CARE OF THAT BUNCH BACK IN THE BIG APPLE.
PLEASE, DIXIE--
--NO, NOT YOU.
NO--
--ONE GETS ONE CHANCE TO DO THIS WELL...
...THEY'RE CERTAINLY ON THEIR GUARD NOW.
IDIOTS.
ENOUGH.
TOLD--
ANYTHING YOU SAY, SAINT HONEY.


Liverpool.
QUEEN MARY
IN THE YEARS TO COME, THIS DISMAL PORT CITY WILL BE BURNISHED WITH AN UNDESERVED GLAMOUR...
...TAKING UNDUE CREDIT FOR A MUSICAL EXPLOSION THAT WILL BE A HUGE PART OF A CULTURAL PARADIGM SHIFT.
BUT NOW, FIVE YEARS AFTER THE BLITZ, MORE THAN A DECADE BEFORE THE MERSEY SOUND CONQUERS THE WORLD...
...THE DESPAIR IS SO PALPABLE ONE CAN ALMOST TASTE IT.
MY GOD...
...IF I DIDN'T KNOW BETTER...
...I'D THINK THERE WAS STILL A WAR ON.
I COULDN'T AGREE MORE, MARGO...
...IT WOULD SEEM OUR COUSINS HAVE SUFFERED DEFEAT IN VICTORY.
BUT IN A MORE PRESSING ISSUE...
...WE SEEM TO BE UNDER SURVEILLANCE.
THE SKINNY FELLOW IN THE SHABBY SUIT?
THAT MIGHT DESCRIBE NEARLY EVERYONE WE'VE SEEN HERE...
...BUT, YES.


THE SAVOY HOTEL.
THE NIGHTLY REIGN OF TERROR...
...THE RAIN OF TERROR THAT WAS THE BLITZ...
...KNOCKED THE EDGES OFF THE GRAND OLD LADY...
...BUT THE HOTEL, LIKE THE CITY, SURVIVED, IF NOT THRIVED.
SAVOY
EITHER, AS YOU SAY, THEY ALL LOOK ALIKE...
...OR OUR ONE-MAN WELCOMING COMMITTEE FROM LIVERPOOL IS ACROSS THE STREET.
AND WHO DO YOU THINK THIS FELLOW REPRESENTS?
GIVE ME AN HOUR OR TWO AND I'LL CONCOCT A LIST OF POTENTIAL INTERESTED PARTIES.
WE HAVE MADE A LOT OF ENEMIES IN OUR TIME, HAVEN'T WE?
ALL IN THE NAME OF JUSTICE.
ONE WOULD HOPE...
YES...
...BUT I'M CERTAIN WE'VE CAUSED THE OCCASIONAL GOOD MAN A BIT OF GRIEF OVER THE YEARS, TOO.


HE'S STILL THERE, YOU KNOW...
OF COURSE HE IS.
DID YOU WANT TO STOP IN TO SEE BERTIE, ELIZABETH AND THE GIRLS?
I CONSIDERED IT...
...BUT I THINK WE'D BE BETTER OFF WITH A LOWER PROFILE.


HE'S VERY GOOD, YOU KNOW.
PERHAPS IT'S A BLOOD RELATIVE.
OR A FRANCHISE.
I SEE MARY'S DOING SOUTH PACIFIC AT THE DRURY LANE...
AND HOW DOES THE SONG GO...?
"...AND SOUTH PACIFIC'S A TERRIFIC SHOW, THEY SAY...


"...WE BOTH MAY SEE IT CLOSE SOME DAY..."
PERHAPS OUR DOGGED PURSUER WOULD LIKE TO SEE IT?
I'D LIKE TO THINK HE'S MORE AN ARTHUR ASKEY ENTHUSIAST.

WHY, LAMONT CRANSTON--
--YOU TRULY ARE A SNOB.
OF COURSE.
KENT ALLARD IS A MAN OF THE PEOPLE...
BUT LAMONT CRANSTON IS A BLUE BLOODED ELITIST SWINE.
Coca-Cola
REFRESHING
TIME
TONIC
WRIGLEY
CHEWING GUM
VORTEX
BP

I COULDN'T HAVE PUT IT BETTER *MYSELF.*

I HAD A CALL FROM *THORPEY...*

WHAT CAN WE *EXPECT* FROM THE GOOD *DOCTOR...*

HE'S *STRUGGLIN'* A BIT.

..AND *WHEN?*

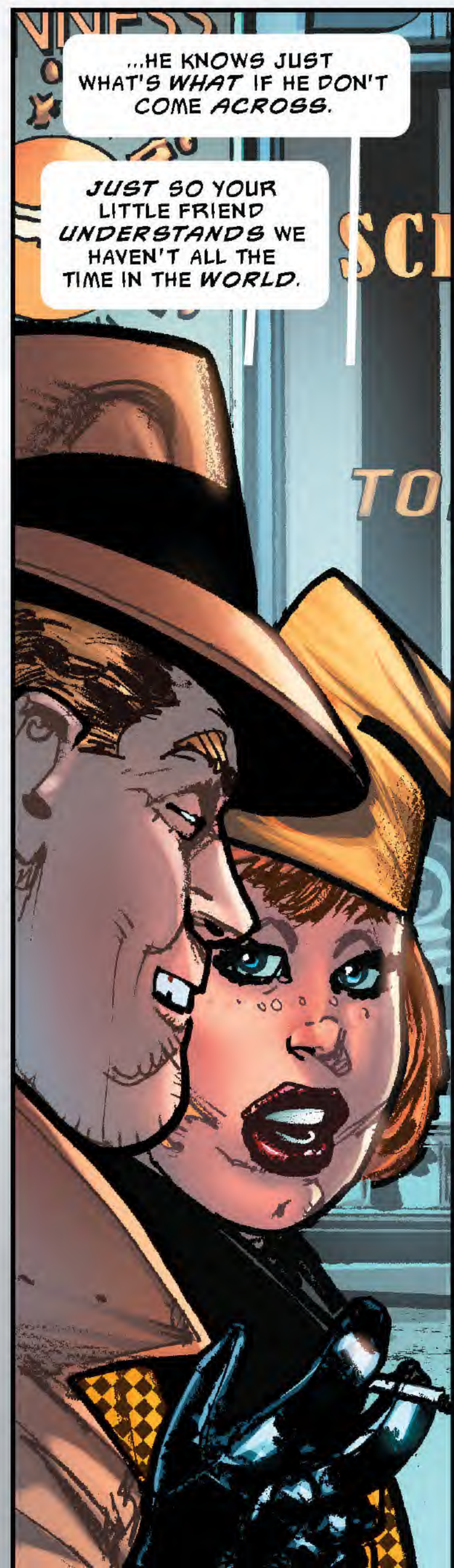
DOES THIS CALL FOR A BIT OF ARM TWISTING ON *MY* PART?

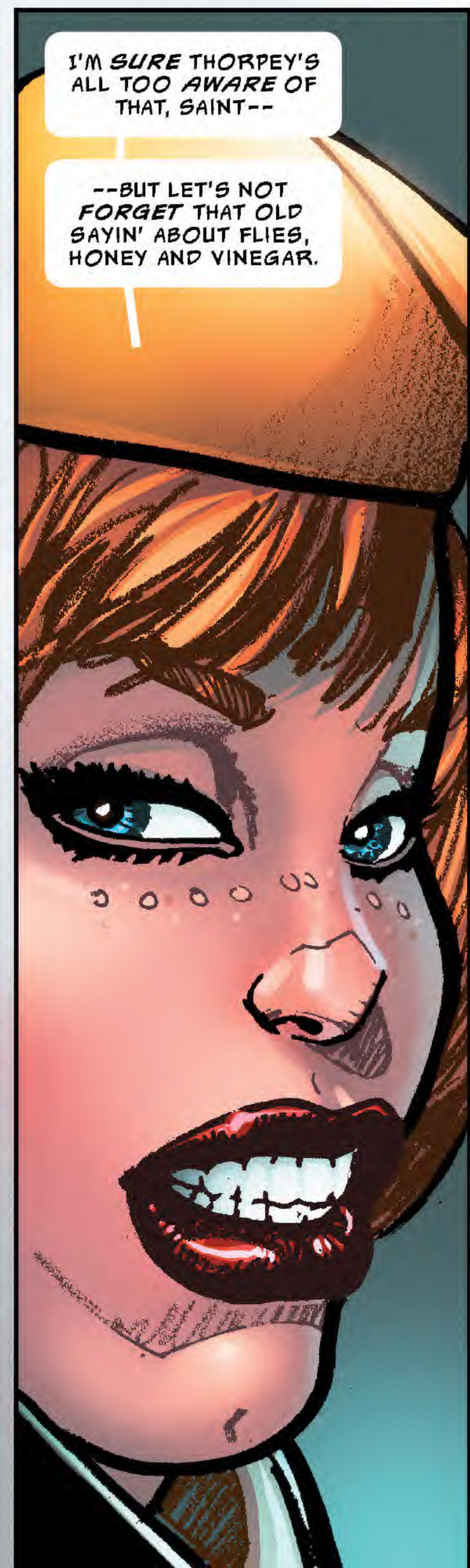
I'M THINKIN' *THAT* MIGHT DO *MORE* HARM THAN GOOD--

AND *I'M* THINKIN' THAT TIME'S *A-WASTIN'.*

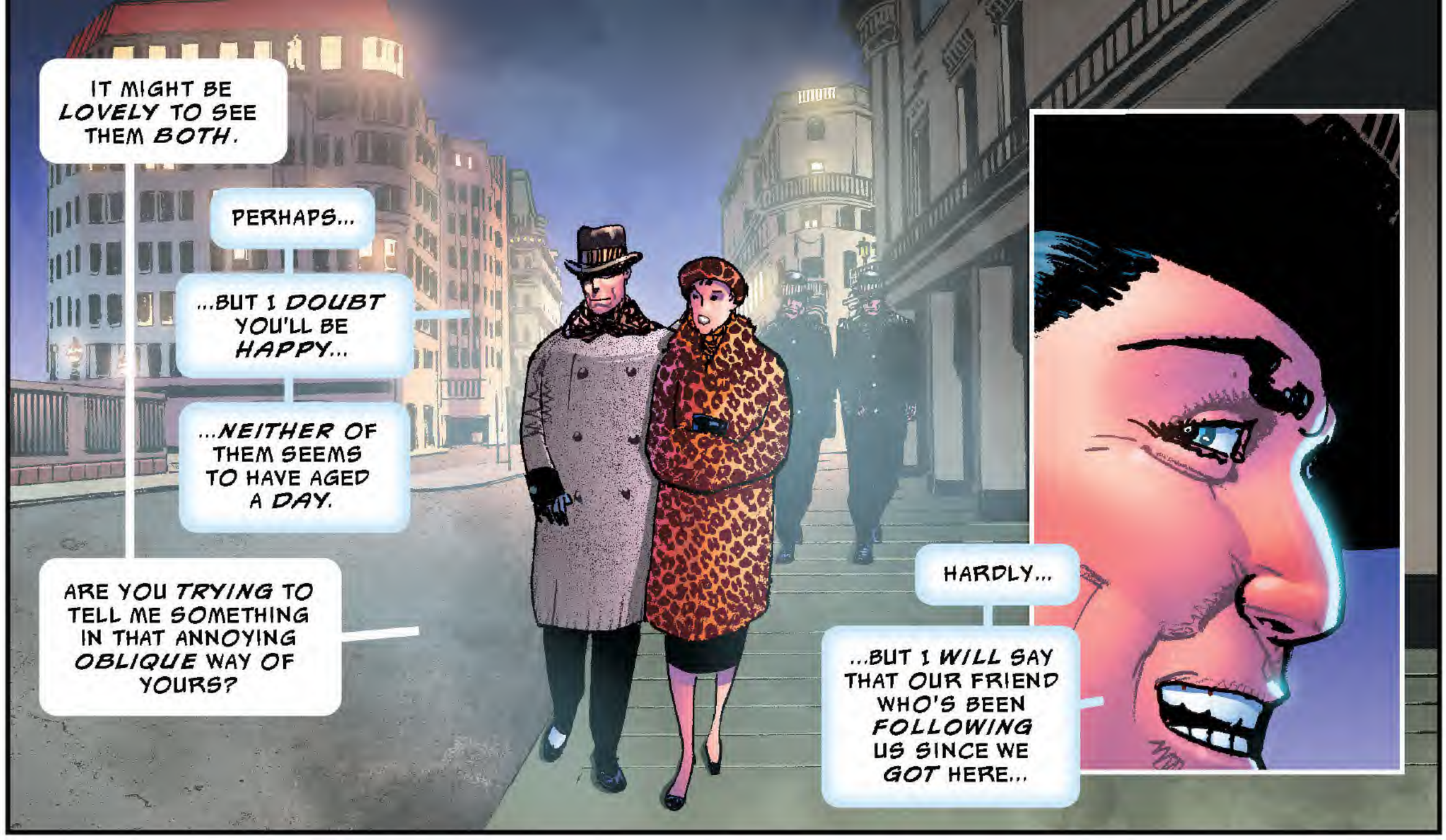
NO CALL TO MAKE *FUN* O' ME, SAINT JOHN--

--THORPEY'S GOT HIS *MARCHIN'* ORDERS...





SIMPSON'S IN THE STRAND HAS BEEN A LONDON LANDMARK FOR OVER A CENTURY...
...AND LIKE MOST CULINARY LANDMARKS IN THE CITY, IT'S NEVER BEEN ANY GOOD.
WELL, THAT CERTAINLY DIDN'T DISAPPOINT..
QUITE RIGHT...
...AS EVER, THE COUSINS SEEM TO HAVE NOTHING BUT CONTEMPT FOR DINING AS AN ACT OF PLEASURE.
AND THEY MOCK THE FRENCH FOR THEIR TASTES...
IGNORING ALL THE THINGS TRULY WORTH MOCKING THE FRENCH FOR.
SPEAKING OF THE FRENCH, HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT SPENDING A FEW DAYS IN PARIS?
SIMPSON'S
IT WOULD TAKE NO PERSUASION WHATSOEVER...
...I BELIEVE THAT JOHN AND JANE WERE PLANNING TO STOP THERE.


IT MIGHT BE LOVELY TO SEE THEM BOTH.
PERHAPS...
...BUT I DOUBT YOU'LL BE HAPPY...
...NEITHER OF THEM SEEMS TO HAVE AGED A DAY.
ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME SOMETHING IN THAT ANNOYING OBLIQUE WAY OF YOURS?
HARDLY...
...BUT I WILL SAY THAT OUR FRIEND WHO'S BEEN FOLLOWING US SINCE WE GOT HERE...

...SEEMS TO HAVE BROUGHT FRIENDS OF HIS OWN.
DO YOU NEED MY HELP...
...OR WOULD YOU PREFER I STEPPED BACK?

STEP BACK, IF YOU PLEASE...
...BUT REMAIN READY TO ASSIST.
SIR, PLEASE--

--WE'RE NOT THE ENEMY.
I'M AFRAID THAT'S NOT FOR YOU TO DECIDE.
MR. CRANSTON, PLEASE--
LAMONT.
THANK YOU, MARGO.
DON'T MENTION IT, LAMONT.
GOD DAMN IT, MAN--
LORD FITZROY...!?!
--YES, FOR GOD'S SAKE...
...WHY DOES EVERYTHING HAVE TO BE SUCH A PRODUCTION WITH YOU, OLD BOY?

THESE MEN ARE *YOURS?*

YES...

...BUT *SEEING* HOW READILY YOU REDUCED THEM TO A PILE OF GROANING *NINNIES*, THEY MAY NOT BE FOR *LONG*.

MY *APOLOGIES*, HUGH...

NO NEED FOR *THAT*...

...IF THEY GET THE *STUFFING* BEATEN OUT OF THEM BY THE LIKES OF *YOU* AND YOUR *GIRLFRIEND*--

--*DELIGHTED* TO SEE YOU AGAIN, MISS LANE--

ALWAYS A PLEASURE, MILORD.

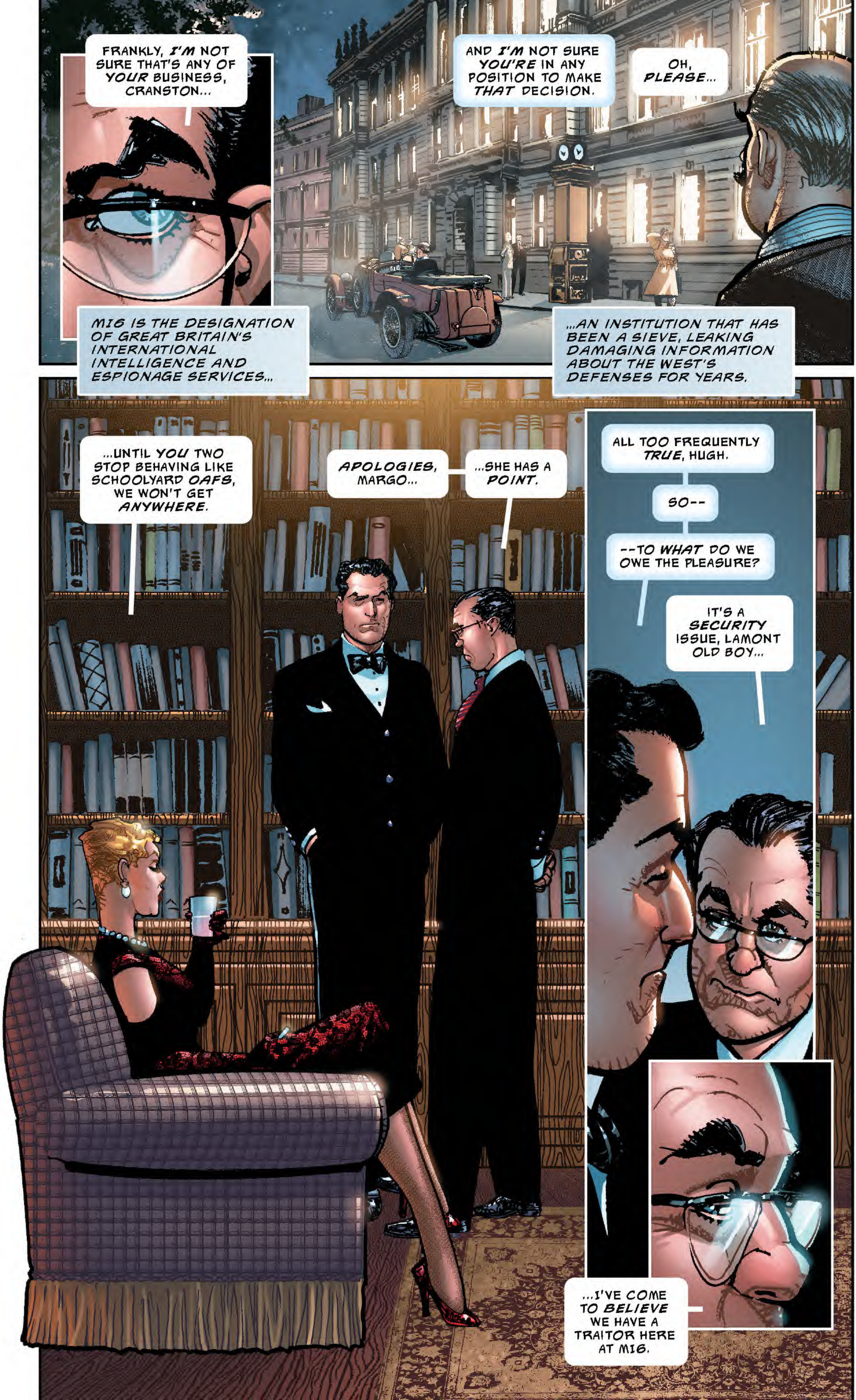
PLEASURE'S ALL *MINE*--

--*HOW* IN HEAVEN'S NAME CAN I *TRUST* THEM IN DEALING WITH OUR RUN-OF-THE-MILL LONDON *VILLAINS*?

THERE IS *THAT*.

SO TELL ME *TRUE*, HUGH...

...WERE YOUR BULLY BOYS HERE TO *PUMMEL* ME OR *PROTECT* ME?


FRANKLY, I'M NOT SURE THAT'S ANY OF YOUR BUSINESS, CRANSTON...
AND I'M NOT SURE YOU'RE IN ANY POSITION TO MAKE THAT DECISION.
OH, PLEASE...
MI6 IS THE DESIGNATION OF GREAT BRITAIN'S INTERNATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND ESPIONAGE SERVICES...
...AN INSTITUTION THAT HAS BEEN A SIEVE, LEAKING DAMAGING INFORMATION ABOUT THE WEST'S DEFENSES FOR YEARS.
...UNTIL YOU TWO STOP BEHAVING LIKE SCHOOLYARD OAFS, WE WON'T GET ANYWHERE.
APOLOGIES, MARGO...
...SHE HAS A POINT.
ALL TOO FREQUENTLY TRUE, HUGH.
SO--
--TO WHAT DO WE OWE THE PLEASURE?
IT'S A SECURITY ISSUE, LAMONT OLD BOY...
...I'VE COME TO BELIEVE WE HAVE A TRAITOR HERE AT MI6.

I'M UNDERSTANDABLY *SORRY* TO HEAR THAT, HUGH, BUT *REALLY* NOW...

...WHAT DOES *THAT* HAVE TO DO WITH *US*?

YOU CAN'T BELIEVE *WE* WOULD HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH *TREASON*...

NO, NO, OF *COURSE* NOT...

...BUT ALL THE *CHATTER* RELATED TO THIS POTENTIAL SECURITY *BREACH*...

...SEEMS TO HOVER AROUND SCIENTIFIC *IDEAS* AND *RUMORS*...

...RELATING TO *BENEDICT STARK*.

STARK...?

AND *THUS*, OF COURSE...

THE SHADOW.

QUITE RIGHT.

AND PRECISELY *HOW* HAS THIS TREASON ACTED OUT?

WE FEAR SOMEONE HAS PURLOINED AN *ATOMIC BOMB*.

IT IS, TO QUOTE THE KING OF SIAM...
...A PUZZLEMENT.
WHAT CAN BENEDICT STARK HAVE TO DO WITH A STOLEN ATOMIC BOMB...
...STOLEN FROM BRITAIN, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE.
AS I SAY, A PUZZLEMENT.
I'VE COME TO BELIEVE THAT STARK WAS WORKING ON...
...OR PERHAPS FINANCING, RESEARCH IN SUB-ATOMIC SCIENCE.
BUT EVEN I KNOW THERE'S VERY LITTLE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THAT SORT OF THING AND HIROSHIMA.
QUITE RIGHT...
...AND THEREIN HANGS THE MYSTERY.
AND WHO BETTER TO SOLVE SUCH A MYSTERY...
...THAN THE SHADOW?
...
...YOU DO FLATTER ME, MARGO...
...BUT I DO SEE YOUR POINT.
End Part Three

DYNAMITE®

IN THE NEWS - JULY 2014

CAPTAIN VICTORY AND HIS GALACTIC RANGERS LAUNCHES IN AUGUST!

JOE CASEY AND NATHAN FOX - THE TEAM BEHIND HAUNT - AND MORE!

In one of Dynamite's most exciting new projects to-date, the acclaimed creative team of Haunt, Joe Casey and Nathan Fox, take on a reimagining of one of Jack Kirby's most incredible creations: Captain Victory! Captain Victory and the Galactic Rangers #1, launching in August 2014, will be available both in comic book stores and digitally! Issue #1 also features interior art by Jim Rugg and Ulises Farinas, with a cover by Nathan Fox, this comic is bound to amaze Kirby enthusiasts everywhere!

In Captain Victory and the Galactic Rangers #1, Captain Victory is launched into an epic adventure that spans both space and time! All your favorites are here -- as well as all-new enemies to face! Your new favorite cosmic comic book has finally arrived!

"As a fan, this was the first Kirby creation I was in on the ground floor of... so to be writing this series is a big deal and a huge honor," says writer Joe Casey. "And we've got some of the best artists in the business -- a lot of my favorite artists, in fact -- to turn this thing into a jam of cosmic proportions. And just like Kirby always did, we're going to be pushing the envelope in all sorts of cool ways."

"I am very pleased to announce that one of my father's iconic characters will once again be part of the world of Dynamite Entertainment," adds the Trustee of the Kirby Family Estate, Lisa Kirby. "Nick Barrucci has brought together a very talented team of people, which include writer Joe Casey and artist Nathan Fox. Through them Captain Victory and the Galactic Rangers will be introduced to a whole new generation, and for those already familiar with The Captain and his team, I am sure you'll be entertained as well!"

"We've wanted to relaunch the universe of characters by the late, great Jack Kirby, but wanted to wait for the right creative team to help us reintroduce the characters to comic fans," states Dynamite CEO/Publisher Nick Barrucci. "Joe Casey is a huge fan, and is bringing his own voice to these fantastic characters. We spoke about the direction he thought would engage fans, and Nathan Fox's participation just sealed the deal. This series has been in the works for over a year as both Joe and Nathan had to fit it in to their schedules, and we did not wish to rush the series. I have to say, I couldn't be happier. Fans are going to be ecstatic with Joe and Nathan's story and art for the series."

And read what the other Captain Victory artists have to say!

"Honored to be working with Kirby's cast of characters and expanding the world of Captain Victory and the Galactic Rangers with Joe Casey," states artist Nathan Fox. "But the six-foot tall cherry on top of it all is getting to collaborate with such an insanely talented rogue's gallery of awesomeness. This is easily one of those mind-blowing storyteller's gigs. So humbled by the crew and looking forward to what all that Joe and the rest of us have in store for Captain Victory."

"To draw some of Kirby's craziest inventions with Joe Casey orchestrating the thing and to make a kick ass jam comic with some of the best cartoonists in the industry today: these are the reasons I wake up in the morning."

- Michel Fiffe

"Captain Victory is one of Jack Kirby's last comic books. It is an honor and thrill to work with his characters. It's also cosmic! Cosmic is very fun to draw! I'm excited for people to see my Captain Victory work and I'm excited to work with and be part of the team of cartoonists that Dynamite has assembled to create this new Captain Victory book."

- Jim Rugg

"I'm a huge Kirby fanatic, so obviously it's a huge honor and a thrill to work on Captain Victory! And to be in such great company with all these amazing artists...it doesn't take a genius to figure out how stellar this project is going to be."

- Jim Mahfood

"Working with Joe (Casey) is always a pleasure," says Dynamite CEO / Publisher Nick Barrucci. "Joe's vision for Captain Victory is jaw dropping-ly great and that we're excited in the direction he's taking the series in!"

Captain Victory and the Galactic Rangers #1 will be solicited in Diamond Comic Distributors' June Previews catalog, the premiere source of merchandise for the comic book specialty market, and slated for release in August 2014. Comic book fans are encouraged to reserve copies of Captain Victory and the Galactic Rangers #1 with their local comic book retailers. Captain Victory and the Galactic Rangers #1 will also be available for individual customer purchase through digital platforms courtesy of Comixology, iVerse, and Dark Horse Digital.

To discuss this and more, log onto the Dynamite forums at
WWW.DYNAMITE.COM/BOARDS

NEXT ISSUE:

ISSUE #4

The City of Light welcomes the Creature of the Night as The Shadow haunts the rooftops of Paris...One step behind his quarry--as the Doomsday clock clicks inexorably to Midnight...

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DUANE SWIERCZYNSKI • KEITH BURNS

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DAMNED IF HE DOES... DEAD IF HE DOESN'T

AN INTERVIEW WITH DUANE SWIERCZYNSKI

DYNAMITE ENTERTAINMENT: How would you describe Cody Pomeray, the titular character of EX-CON?

DUANE SWIERCZYNSKI: Cody's your classic grifter -- there's nothing he wouldn't steal, including his name (which he picked up from a Beat novel he once read). To me, the difference between a grifter and a bandit is their choice of tools: bandits use deadly weapons, while gifters use their brains. Cody's brain, however, works in a slightly different way. He interprets mental states as actual colors, so it's easy for him to know who's lying to him, as well as who wants to lay down with him (if you know what I mean). He calls it "Seeing the Lights," and it's served him well over the years... until our first issue.

DE: By the nature of the title itself, we know that Cody has already experienced his crime and punishment. Will the story be firmly set after his stint in prison, or will we get to experience flashbacks to his jail time and what shapes him into his current state?

DS: The story opens with a brief glimpse of his freewheelin' life before prison, but yeah -- we pick up his tale five years later (in 1989), on the day he's released. That said, we do have some brutal looks back at Cody's prison days, because they absolutely set him on the doomed road he's currently traveling.

DE: The events of EX-CON are set in the 80's. How does that era -- its politics, materialism, societal fears and distractions, etc. -- play a role in the story?

DS: I think certain eras have their ideal crime stories -- and Cody's story just felt like it came screaming out of the 80s. It's also nice to play in a world where you can't rely on cell phones or the internet. And of course, there's the music, the drugs, the drinking, the clothes... artist Keith Burns and I have been having a blast.

DE: Should fans of your previous comics work anticipate similar themes to appear in EX-CON? Any comparison titles from the Swierczynski library whose readers are ideally suited to enjoy this new project?

DS: EX-CON is probably my first balls-out crime story for comics, as opposed to other comics that have had a superhero or science-fiction element to them. Granted, Cody has an ability that could be considered a superpower, but he's no hero, believe me.

Fans who've liked my darker novels -- THE WHEELMAN or THE BLONDE, for instance -- will feel at home in Cody's twisted little noir world.

DE: Why don't you give us something to salivate over -- what's something you can tease (without giving too much away, obviously) that'll make people really sit up and take notice of EX-CON?

DS: I'm torn; do I mention the infamous wine-coolers-in-the-garage scene? Or the CENSORED sequence that I'm pretty sure made Keith Burns blush? Or the bearded horror/porn director who... ahhhh, I can't give anything away. You're just going to have to enjoy the 80's splendor along with poor Cody.

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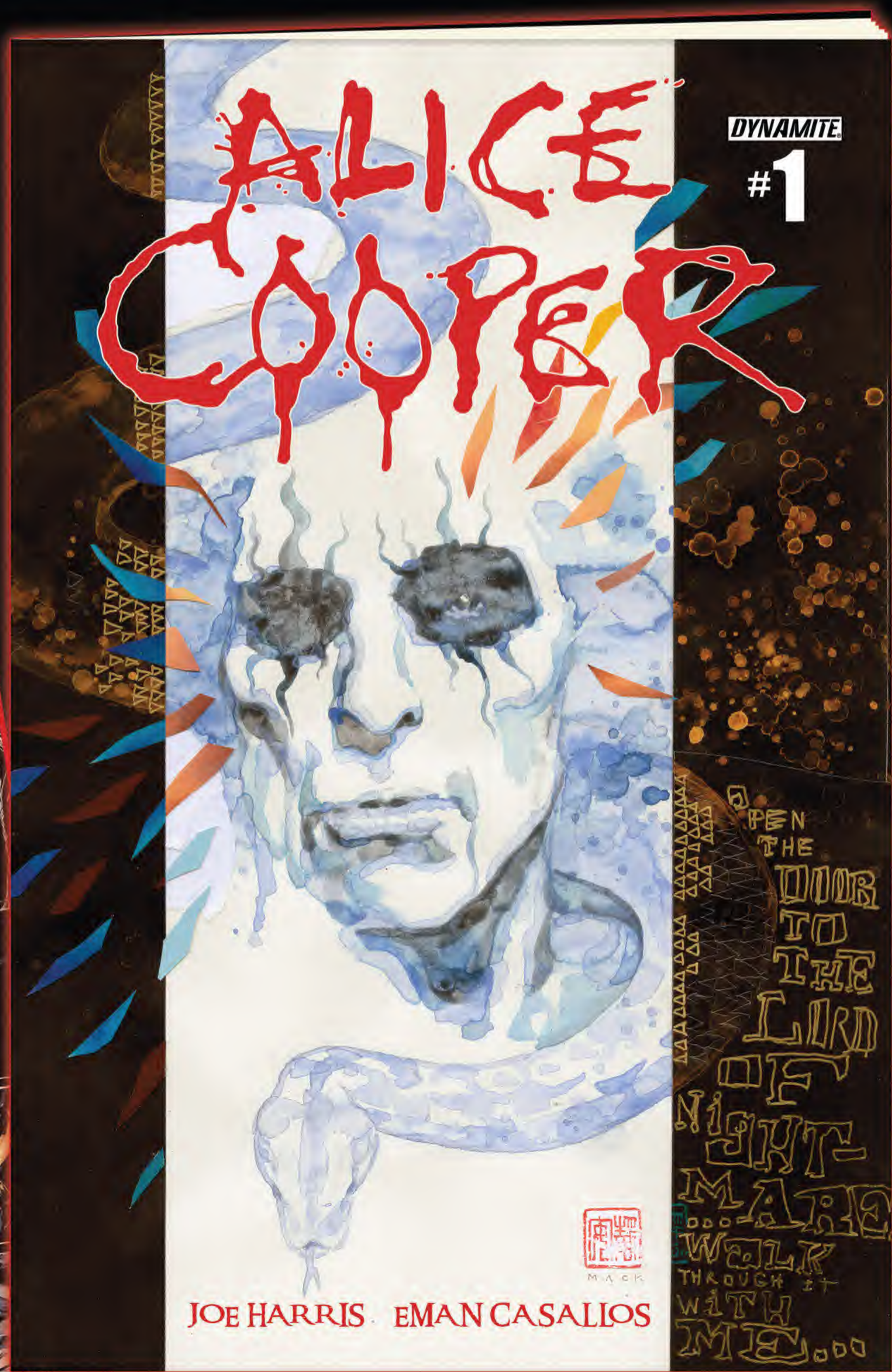

written by: JOE HARRIS (the x-files)
art by: EMAN CASALLOS (jennifer blood)
main covers by: DAVID MACK (kabuki)

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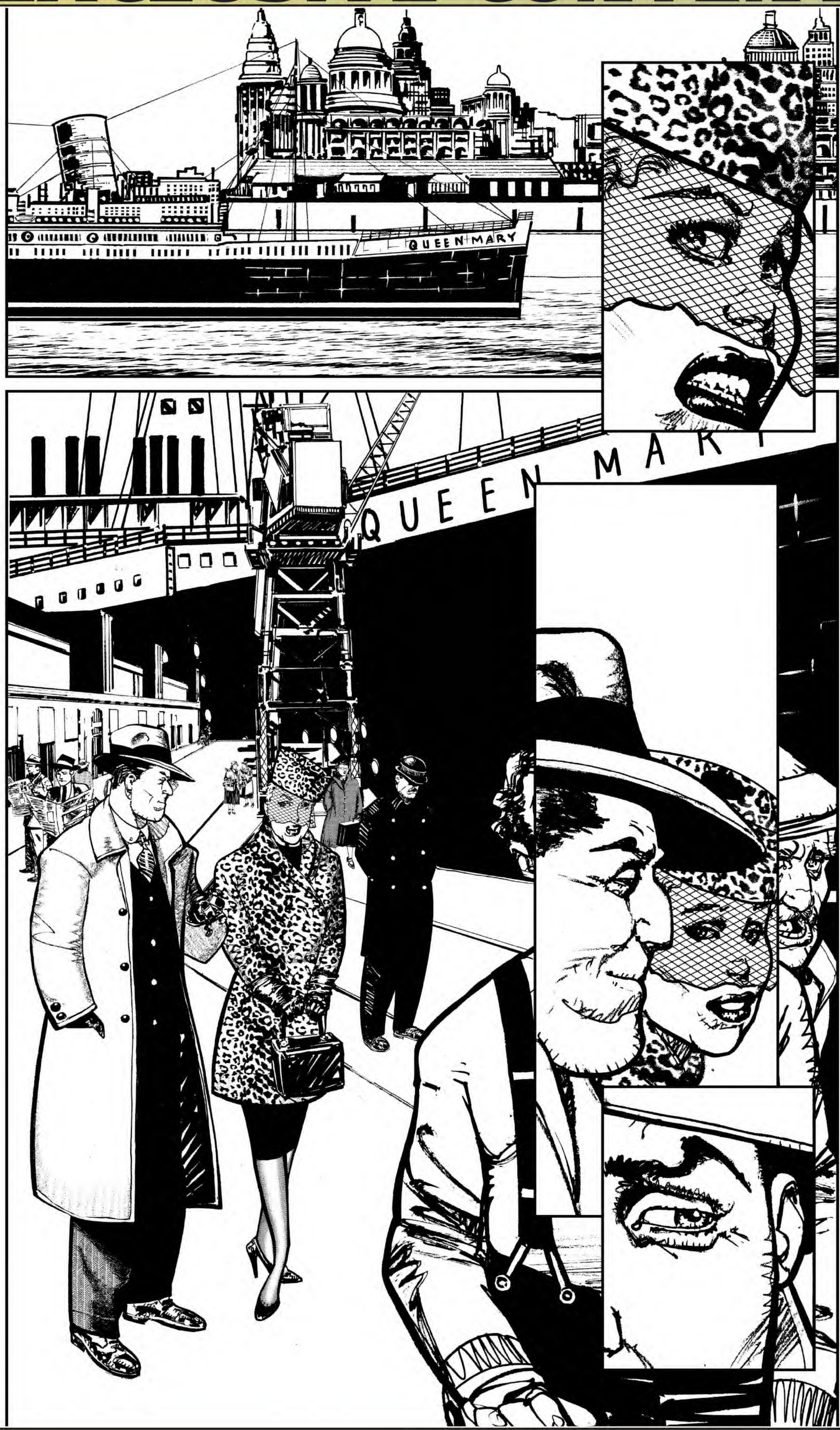

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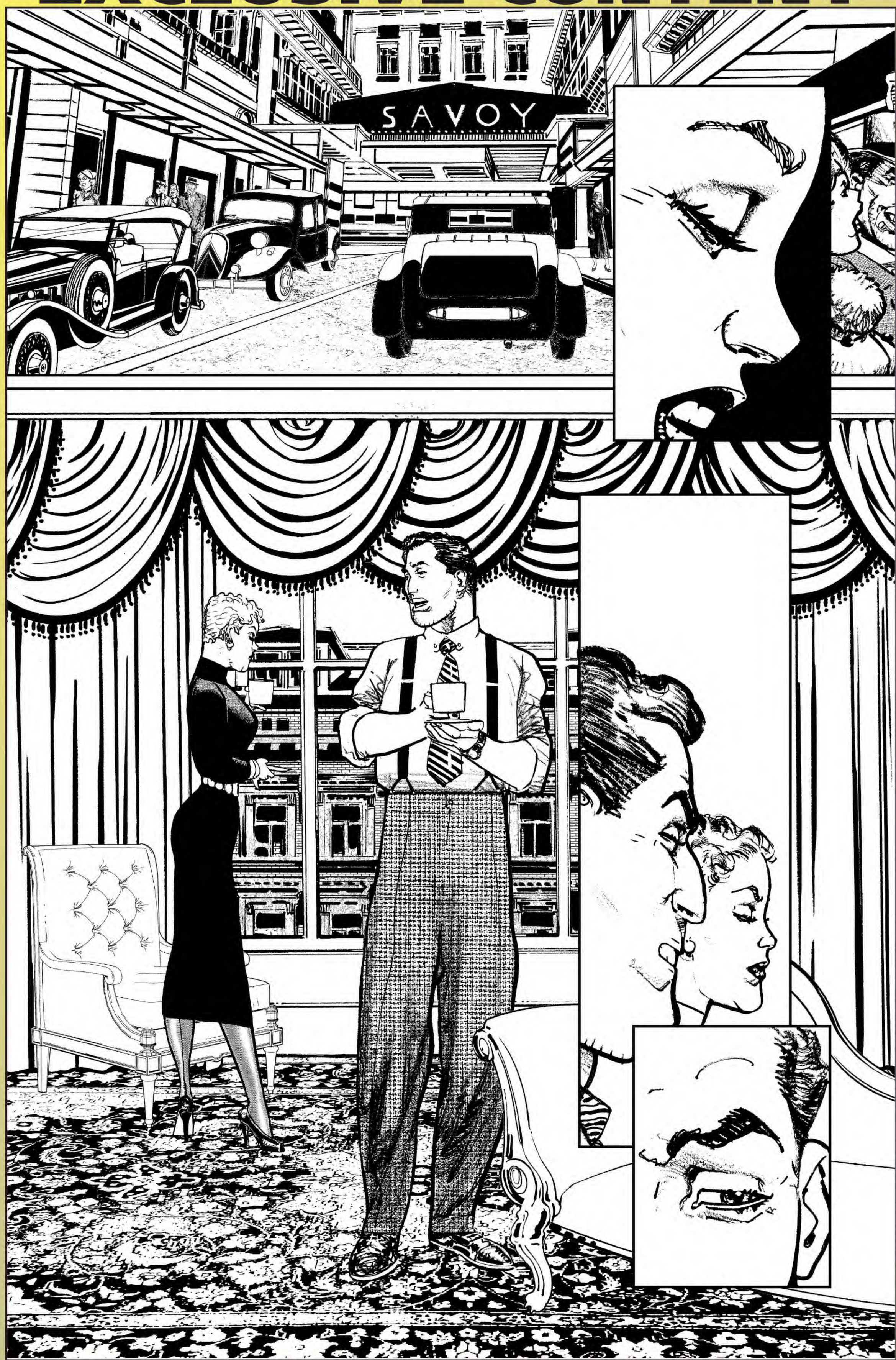
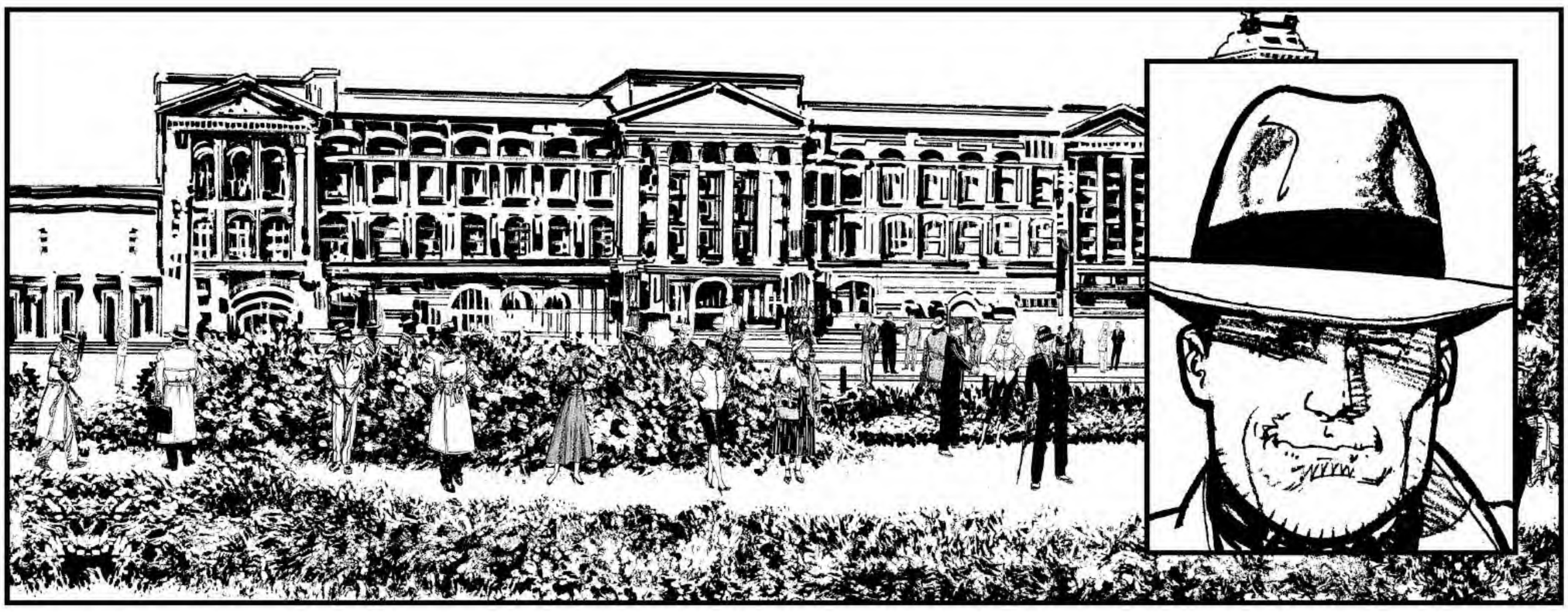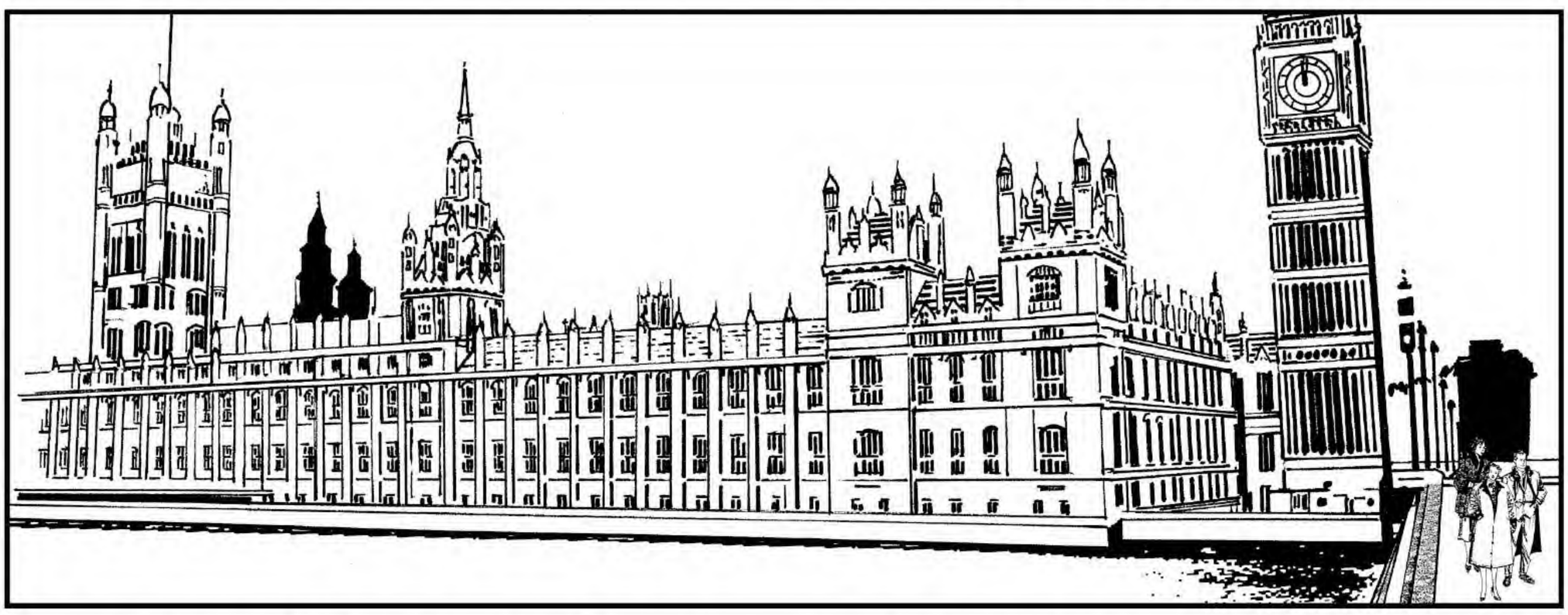
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